



# ARTS BUILD ONTARIO

## **Annual Report 2007/08**

**Presented at Annual General Meeting: September 17 2008**

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### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

ArtsBuild Ontario's 2007/08 fiscal year ending March 31, 2008 was a bit of an anomaly in that its activities for the first eleven months of that year were financed through generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation awarded as a collaborative grant to ArtsBuild Ontario's Steering Committee in 2005 since ArtsBuild Ontario had not yet been incorporated.

The year served as a transition from a Steering Committee directed to a Board directed organization and during this period the newly minted Board of ArtsBuild Ontario worked on its application for incorporation as a not-for-profit arts organization and received its Letters Patent in June 2007.

The transition went very smoothly and I thank the Board of Directors and the members of the Steering Committee for all their attention and due diligence in ensuring the process was successful.

Two new members were welcomed to the Board of Directors, and the original Steering Committee, which has now morphed into an Advisory Committee, was expanded. The Board continues to address the expansion of both the Board and the Advisory.

The Board of Directors approved ArtsBuild Ontario's first Strategic Plan and worked closely with Executive Director, Celia Smith, to develop and monitor a workplan to implement the strategies approved to advance the organization's goals and health.

With the sunset of the Ontario Trillium Foundation funding in February 2008, ArtsBuild Ontario directed its efforts to securing bridge funding to cover expenses while we sought major funding from other sources. We were successful in securing such funding from the George Metcalf Foundation and the Ontario Arts Council, and are extremely grateful for their support and encouragement.

I refer you to the Report of the Executive Director for a full accounting of our activities in 2007/08. On behalf of the Board, I wish to acknowledge the exceptional efforts and talents of our Executive Director, Celia Smith. She is a pleasure to work with and has made a tremendous contribution to ArtsBuild Ontario.

In closing, I salute the exemplary dedication and commitment provided by ArtsBuild Ontario's Board of Directors and Advisory Committee over the past year.

I thank them sincerely for their support and wonderful leadership and direction to the organization as it continues its pursuit of the long term goal to establish a unique non-profit finance fund to provide grants and loans for capital infrastructure projects for Ontario's small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations.

**Sandra Tulloch**  
**President, Board of Directors**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Since **ArtsBuild Ontario** was officially created two years ago we have taken significant steps to address the chronic infrastructure crisis facing this province's small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations. The past year in particular has seen a significant increase in credibility, partnerships and activity.

### Strategic Plan

In June 2007 and again more recently, the Board undertook a Strategic Plan review and confirmed the future direction for the organization:

Over the next five years ArtsBuild Ontario proposes a program of **EDUCATION** to build capital project management capacity in the sector, **INFORMATION** to assist stakeholders and funders to quantify and prioritize the status of potential capital projects and **SOLUTIONS** to address the acute capital infrastructure crisis facing Ontario's small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations.

Underlying these initiatives is a robust **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** plan to ensure that the projects are well managed and that the organization is sustainable in the long term.

In collaboration with our constituent service organizations, our culture sector partners and our public sector partners, we will improve the success of capital projects for small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations in the province of Ontario.

Our long-term vision remains to develop a permanent, independent capital finance fund offering funding, financing and capacity-building technical assistance, designed specifically to address the challenges these groups face.

### Funding Partners

The first multi-year funding from the Ontario Trillium concluded as of February 28 2008. The final report was submitted and the file closed to the satisfaction of the Foundation. This funding was fundamental to the formation of ArtsBuild and supported education programs across the province, the establishment of the Board of

Directors and the hiring of a professional Executive Director. The organization has applied for future multi-year funding and a decision is pending in late 2008.

At year-end, ArtsBuild Ontario had received confirmation of crucial support from the Metcalf Foundation through a contract to undertake research and capacity building in the area of cultural infrastructure. The Foundation has taken a leadership role in recognizing the importance of addressing this issue on the health of the province's arts sector.

The Ontario Arts Council has also provided helpful support, specifically interested in research on alternate financing strategies that may be helpful in cultural infrastructure projects.

Our funding partners in the 2006 Ipsos Reid study of the scope of the provincial infrastructure crisis were the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Department of Canadian Heritage, Ministry of Culture and the Ontario Arts Council.

### Education Programs

With the invaluable assistance of Réseau Ontario, ArtsBuild Ontario compiled a comprehensive francophone workshop package.

On Jan 17 2008 in Ottawa, Réseau Ontario and OAAG co-hosted an ArtsBuild workshop led by Louise Poulin in French with 54 participants. On January 25 2008 the introductory workshop was conducted by Janis Barlow and Celia Smith at the McLaren Art Centre in Barrie with 31 participants, introducing recently revised materials.

## Research

A key initiative over the past year has been the exploration of potential alternative financing strategies that may assist small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations as they attempt capital projects. These may range from Non Profit Financing Funds, municipal planning tools and incentives (like Section 37) or changes in taxation policy in order to leverage private sector participation in these projects. To that end, the following consultations have taken place:

- Creative City Network of Canada Conference
- Artscape - Creative Placemaking Workshop
- Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund
- Centre of Expertise on Culture & Communities (CECC)
- International Symposium Creative Construct: Building for Culture and Creativity
- Ontario Non Profit Network

## Partnerships

ArtsBuild Ontario has been working in partnership with a number of key community organizations that are equally concerned about the state of cultural infrastructure, but from their own perspective: **Artscape** (culture-led regeneration and property development), **ArtsVest** (private sector fundraising capacity), **Creative Trust** (organizational health) and **Municipal Cultural Planning Partnership** (municipal focus on culture as part of community strengthening). The five organizations continue to explore areas of

mutual concern and to collaborate on joint projects.

## Communications

Following the completion of the **Ipsos Reid** study in 2006 on the state of cultural infrastructure across the province, ArtsBuild initiated a wide communications strategy, meeting with policy-makers, program staff and political leadership at the municipal, provincial and federal levels to inform them on the results of the study and to discuss ArtsBuild's recommendations for future funding programs. In addition, ArtsBuild communicates with its stakeholders and constituents regularly on the results of this study and other initiatives that have been undertaken.

## Governance

Since the Board was established two years ago, the founding members: Sandra Tulloch (President), Jackie Bonic (Vice President) and Jay Katz (Secretary) have been joined by Catherine Smalley (Treasurer) and Christine Moynihan (Advisory Committee Chair).

The founding Steering Committee has transitioned into an Advisory Committee that continues to support the work of ArtsBuild and includes representatives from leading performing and visual arts service organizations in the province. Work is currently underway to expand this group to include a broader representation of the community.

*Many thanks to the Board of Directors, Advisory Committee, stakeholders, constituents and funders of ArtsBuild Ontario for their encouragement and enthusiasm.*

**Celia Smith**  
**Executive Director**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandra Tulloch  
President

Jackie Bonic  
Vice President

Jay Katz  
Secretary

Catherine Smalley  
Treasurer

Christine Moynihan  
Chair, Advisory Committee

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Artist Run Centres and Collectives of Ontario

Dance Umbrella of Ontario

Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario in collaboration with  
Association des groupes en arts visuels  
francophones

Ontario Association of Art Galleries

Professional Association of Canadian Theatres

Théâtre Action in collaboration with  
Association des théâtres francophones du  
Canada (ATFC)

Theatre Ontario

Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Celia Smith

## FUNDERS

ArtsBuild Ontario was founded through significant leadership support from the **Ontario Trillium Foundation** from 2004 through 2008.



ArtsBuild Ontario Charitable Organization is currently funded through generous contributions from:

**The George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation** (under contract)

**Ontario Arts Council** (project grant)

The 2006 Ipsos Reid study commissioned by ArtsBuild Ontario to study the cultural infrastructure crisis facing the province's small and mid-sized performing and visual arts organizations was funded by:

**Department of Canadian Heritage**

**Ontario Arts Council**

**Ontario Trillium Foundation**

**Ontario Ministry of Culture**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### ARTSBUILD ONTARIO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

*For the period April 1 2007 – March 31 2008*

#### Revenue

Ontario Arts Council      \$ 10,000

**TOTAL REVENUE      \$ 10,000**

#### Expense

Nil                              \$ 0

**NET INCOME              \$ 10,000**

#### **Note to Financial Statement:**

From November 2004 through the end of February 2008 ArtsBuild Ontario operated primarily through the support of a project grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation of \$ 216,700.

The grant was paid to the Professional Association of Canadian Theatre (PACT) on behalf of the ArtsBuild Ontario project.

The finances of those project activities are not represented in the current statement, but are recorded in the PACT audited statements for that period.

In early 2008 ArtsBuild Ontario Charitable Organization received its first revenue through a grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

By year-end March 31 2008 there were no recorded expenses for ArtsBuild Ontario Charitable Organization, as all expenses until February 28 2008 had been recorded as part of the Ontario Trillium Foundation funded project and on-going expenses did not occur until after year-end.

ArtsBuild Ontario will produce an audited statement after year-end March 31 2009 that will reflect the full scope of its current activities.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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